

get the money—well, if they stay, fine; if they don't, no big deal.

Mr. DURBIN. Let's stay on that point for a second. I ask the Senator from Iowa, how long does the student have to stay at the school for the school to get the Federal money? If they left and didn't finish, would the school still get paid?

Mr. HARKIN. This is something else we have to look into. Right now, the Federal laws are that a student has to be in for at least 60 percent of the term. If they are in for 60 percent of a term, then the school can keep the money.

Now, I ask my friend from Illinois, what is a term? I ask people that, and they say: well, isn't that a semester? Well, a term is whatever the school says it is. Some of these schools have a term that is 6 weeks long. So you sign up, you turn over your money, you spend 4 weeks there, you fulfill 60 percent of the term. If you leave, they keep the money.

Mr. DURBIN. And you end up with the student loan.

Mr. HARKIN. And, by the way, as the Senator fully knows, these student loans are not dischargeable in bankruptcy. They are around your neck forever.

Mr. DURBIN. I might also add, I think Congress made a serious error in saying that the private loans from the same schools will be treated the same way. They are not dischargeable in bankruptcy.

Here we have someone who could be 19 or 20 years old signing up for \$4,000, \$5,000 or \$10,000 worth of student loans. Have they really thought and reflected on the fact that that debt they have incurred is going to be with them for a lifetime and, at some point in their lives, when they can no longer borrow money to go to school, and they are still facing default on their student loan, they could have their income tax returns attached, they could be prohibited from Federal employment? They cannot discharge this loan in bankruptcy. They are stuck with it.

That poor girl living in her parents' basement with a \$90,000 debt for Westwood College, a rip-off institution, is stuck. She has nowhere to turn. The college president wrote to me and said I am just being totally unfair with him about her experience. Well, I know her experience inside and out.

I said: You want fairness? You step in and forgive her loan. You pay it back. You have the money. You pay it back. Never heard back from him.

They don't have the interests of the students at heart. They have the interests of money at heart. That is why I am glad the Senator is investigating, and we will continue to speak out.

Mr. HARKIN. I thank the Senator for his great work on this.

I just want to add one other thing about the school and about the debt of these students. Some have likened what the for-profit school industry is doing to the subprime bubble we had.

But there is a big difference. Even as bad as the subprime mortgages were, a person who had a house they couldn't pay for could walk away from that house. They could always walk away from it, and that is the end of the debt. You can't walk away from this. No way. That is the difference.

This is not a dischargeable debt, and these students, as the Senator points out, might end up alone. They might not be able to go to a legitimate school because they can't get any money for that. They could be barred from Federal employment. This will follow them for the rest of their lives until they pay it off. Yet these companies are making almost obscene profits and paying their CEOs tremendous salaries and benefits.

As I pointed out earlier, many of these for-profit schools are owned by the same investment firms on Wall Street that brought us the subprime problem.

Well, I say to my friend, we just can't let this go. There is too much at stake not only for the taxpayers of this country but for these students, these young kids, these poor kids who are being preyed upon. So whenever we hear these schools say: Well, the reason we have this problem is because we are servicing all of these poor kids—don't forget. That is who they prey on. That is who they go after because they get the most Pell grants and the most student loans out of the poor kids. Then after they get the money, hey, if they leave, no sweat. They don't care. It is not a problem with them.

I thank my friend from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. I thank the Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE DREAM ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, we have been speaking on the Senate floor about students who are being exploited by for-profit colleges. I think about turning on the television in Washington and the ad that really troubles me which shows a lovely young woman who says: You can go to college in your pajamas. You don't even have to get out of bed to go to college. And she has a computer on the bed.

It strikes me that—I don't believe anybody should fall for that, but some must, and they end up signing up for these for-profit schools, getting deep in debt, with a worthless diploma when it is all over. The exploitation of veterans, Senator HARKIN is bringing that out. I hope the people who are going to give the patriotic speeches in this Chamber about our love of country and our love for the men and women in uniform will love them enough to put an end to this exploitation.

I wish to speak about the DREAM Act. It is legislation which I first introduced 10 years ago and came to my office when we were approached by a Korean-American woman in Chicago whose daughter was brought to the United States when the little girl was 2 years old. She was brought on a visitor's visa. Her mom stayed, had other children, started a business. Eventually, she became a naturalized citizen. The other brothers and sisters were born in the United States, but this young girl who was brought from Korea literally had no papers filed.

Well, she turned out to be an amazing concert pianist. She was accepted at the Juilliard School of Music. When she went to apply and was asked about her citizenship, her mom realized she had never done anything about her daughter's citizenship. So they called our office. We checked, and the laws of the United States were very clear. They said this young girl who had never remembered ever being in Korea was told to return to Korea and wait at least 10 years to try to get back into the United States. I thought that was unfair. It turns out she wasn't alone.

Young people all across the United States, who were brought here by their parents, undocumented, have lived their lives here, have gone to school here, have grown up here, have pledged allegiance to the flag in the classrooms here, have known no other flag or National Anthem, and then they learn as they graduate from high school they are without a country. They have no place to go.

For many of them, it is a rude awakening, after all the effort they put into school, to realize they can't do anything. They can't qualify for student loans even at good schools. They can't qualify for a lot of jobs they might otherwise have if they graduate—engineers, nurses, doctors, teachers—because they have no citizenship.

So I said: Let's at least agree on something basic. You shouldn't hold a child responsible for the wrongdoing of their parents. I hope we all agree on that.

Secondly, if we have spent so much time and resources in giving this young person a chance to be educated, and they have paid us back by working hard at graduating, isn't it in the best interests of America to give them a chance to help our country move forward?

That is why I introduced the DREAM Act. It says: If you graduated from high school—if you came to this country under the age of 16 and you graduated from high school, you have had no serious problems with the law, you have had no issues of moral character, and you go on to do one of two things—either serve in our military or finish at least 2 years of college—we will give you a chance to become legal in America. It is called the DREAM Act. We have been considering it for 10 years.

Last December, the Senator from New Mexico knows we voted on it.

Fifty-five votes on the Senate floor—a majority but not enough. There was a Republican filibuster requiring 60 votes. We fell short. We had three Republicans join us in voting for it. We lost a handful of Democrats. We are going at it again.

I have reintroduced the bill. The reason I have done it is because the challenge is still there. These young people are still out there, and their lives are still hanging in the balance. I think it is time to give these young people a chance. I don't want to give them amnesty. I want them to earn everything they are going to get. If they have to pay a fine or tax on the way, so be it. They will pay it. They are determined to become part of America. These are young people who have become superstars in their own rights.

By every account they are the leaders of tomorrow but for the fact that they don't have citizenship or legal status in America. The DREAM Act is supported by Defense Secretary Robert Gates. He believes it will bring diversity to our Armed Forces. It is also supported by General Colin L. Powell, a man I respect very much, who believes, as I do, that we should give these young people a chance.

This DREAM Act will stimulate our economy with a lot of new people in professions we need to have filled, including nurses and teachers, engineers, doctors, and lawyers. That is why the DREAM Act has the support of such a diverse group, including Rupert Murdoch and the CEOs of companies such as Microsoft and Pfizer.

Every day I get contacted by these students across America. They keep looking to us and wondering if the day will come when we will give them their chance.

I wish to share two stories very quickly this evening. This is Elier. I will show his photo because he is a handsome young man. Elier's parents brought him to the United States in 1994 when he was 4 years old. He is a computer wizard. In high school he won awards for outstanding achievement in science and information technology. He graduated in the top 5 percent of his high school class. He was named Tech Prep Student of the Year in Cincinnati, OH. He has even started a computer repair business.

Now, Elier is a 19-year-old honors student at the University of Cincinnati majoring in information technology with a 3.8 GPA. Here is what one of his professors said about Elier:

I have worked with thousands of students over the past 30 years and Elier Lara is that student who comes along every 10 years or so who just makes your heart sing.

Elier sent me a letter, and here is what he said in the letter:

Technology and computers is where I want to spend the rest of my life. I'm sure I'll find my place on the forefront of the technological frontier, implementing and discovering the new technologies of the future. I am dreaming big and will continue to do so.

Can we use a person with those talents in America? You bet we can—in Il-

linois, in New Mexico, in Ohio. Look at leading American technology companies such as Google, Yahoo, Intel, and eBay. They were founded by immigrants to the United States. That could be Elier's future and part of America's future.

Here is the sad part of the story of this otherwise amazing young man. Elier is in deportation proceedings. After having won all the awards for a great academic background and demonstrating the kind of leadership we need in America, our government has officially decided it is time for him to leave. Here is what he said about being deported:

I have been living in the United States for the last fourteen years of my life. The most important years of my life were spent here in America. I cannot speak, read or write . . . Spanish. I have never been back to Mexico since the day we moved here.

At the age of 4.

Mexico is not home for me and I fear going back.

So would it be a good use of taxpayer dollars to deport this young man and send him back to a country where he can barely speak a few words of the language—a place he can never remember?

Elier has asked the Department of Homeland Security to grant him a stay, and I am going to work hard to make sure he gets it. I do not know if I will be successful. It makes no sense for us to lose Elier. He has so much to contribute, and we need to have him here.

In the past, I have spoken about Oscar Vazquez. Oscar is a student from Arizona. I would like to update you on Oscar's situation because while we take our time addressing this issue, the lives of these young people go on.

Oscar Vazquez was brought to Phoenix, AZ, by his parents when he was a child. He spent his high school years in Junior ROTC, as we can see from his uniform. He dreamed of enlisting in the military. Here is a picture of him in his uniform.

But at the end of his junior year, a recruiting officer told Oscar he was ineligible to serve in our military because he was undocumented. Oscar found another outlet for his talent. He entered a college-level robot competition sponsored by NASA. Oscar and three other DREAM Act students—the four of them—worked for months in a storage room in their high school. They were competing against students from MIT and other top universities. Oscar's team won first place.

This is Oscar today. I show you an updated photo—a good-looking young man.

In 2009, he graduated from Arizona State University with a degree in mechanical engineering. He was one of the top three students in his class at Arizona State.

Following his graduation, he took a brave step. He voluntarily returned to Mexico—a country where he had not lived since he was an infant—and he said:

I decided to take a gamble and [try to] do the right thing.

Last year, the Obama administration granted Oscar a waiver to reenter the United States. Without this waiver, Oscar would have been barred from returning to the United States for at least 10 years. He would have been separated from his wife Karla and their 2-year-old daughter Samantha, both of whom are American citizens.

When Oscar returned to the United States last year, he did two things. He applied for citizenship, and he enlisted in the U.S. Army. He is in basic training right now. He wants to be an Apache helicopter pilot.

In June, Oscar will complete basic training and be sworn in as an American citizen. The story of Oscar Vazquez is the story of America, and it is the story of the DREAM Act. This young man, determined to serve in our military, was turned away as undocumented. He went on and earned a college degree, with no help from Federal programs, graduating at the top of his class. He then went to Mexico and took a chance that he could get back here so he could enlist in the Army, and he made it. Tell me, what is fairness and justice for Oscar Vasquez? That is what the DREAM Act is all about.

I introduced this bill in 2001. I have met so many young students such as these who are my inspiration to come to this floor regularly and remind those who follow the Senate this is an issue that will not go away—as these lives will not go away. We need these young people.

I wish to call on other students all across America—who were lucky enough to be born in America, who never had to question their own citizenship or future—I am asking them to stand in solidarity with these young men and women, people who may be sitting next to them in a lecture hall or just across the aisle at a desk. They are like you, and they need you to stand for them. If we can have students across America mobilize on behalf of DREAM Act students, we can create a force for change—a force that can pass, even with 60 votes, this DREAM Act in the Senate.

I need my colleagues to not forget the DREAM Act, not forget these young people, and not forget what America is all about.

Just a few steps from here is my office, and right behind my desk is a certificate that I have had displayed as long as I have been in the Senate. It is my mother's naturalization certificate. She was an immigrant, and she came here at the age of 2. She would have been one of the DREAM kids of her generation. It was not until after she was a parent and had two children that she finally took the classes and was naturalized as a U.S. citizen. She was a young mom in East Saint Louis, IL, and I have her picture right there on the naturalization certificate to remind me not only who I am but to remind me of her and her journey.

Her journey to America is the same journey these young people made: coming as an infant and striving to succeed in a place which did not always welcome immigrants. But, thank goodness, this Nation of immigrants, from time to time, will rally and celebrate our diversity, celebrate the length and breadth of the American family and all the cultures and all the ethnic backgrounds it comprises.

I am so proud of this great Nation, and I am proud of who we are and what we are. This Nation of immigrants should remember that fine young people such as these DREAM Act students deserve a chance. Given a chance, they will continue to prove to America that this is, indeed, a great and noble experiment in our country, bringing together people from all over the world.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that morning business be extended until 7 p.m. tonight, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each during that period of time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PATRIOT SUNSETS EXTENSION ACT OF 2011—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order to proceed to S. 1038, introduced earlier today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I move to proceed then to S. 1038.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to the bill (S. 1038) to extend expiring provisions of the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 and the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 until June 1, 2015, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to S. 1038, a bill to extend expiring provisions of the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 and the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 until June 1, 2015, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Dianne Feinstein, Bill Nelson, Amy Klobuchar, Jeff Bingaman,

Richard Blumenthal, Mark R. Warner, Sheldon Whitehouse, Benjamin L. Cardin, Kay R. Hagan, Kent Conrad, Charles E. Schumer, Joe Manchin III, Sherrod Brown, Mark L. Pryor, Jeanne Shaheen, Joseph I. Lieberman, Kirsten E. Gillibrand.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. By unanimous consent the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that upon the conclusion of morning business on Monday, May 23, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 1038 and that at 5 p.m. the Senate proceed to the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed; further, that the time for debate on the motion to proceed be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders and their designees.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this week is National Police Week. During National Police Week we pay tribute to the brave men and women who serve the U.S. as law enforcement officers and take note of their selfless dedication to keeping our communities safe. Last week, peace officers from across the Nation traveled to Washington to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice and given their lives in the line of duty. This year, two of the names that were added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial belong to law enforcement officers from Nevada: Nye County Deputy Ian Michael Deutch and Nevada Department of Corrections officer Sergeant Vincent Tyrone Tatum.

Last April, 27-year-old Ian Michael Deutch was shot and killed while investigating a domestic disturbance call in Pahrump, NV. When the deputies arrived, the suspect opened fire on them with a high powered rifle. Deputy Deutch was struck three times in the abdomen and the bullets penetrated his bullet-proof vest. Sadly, Deputy Deutch had just survived a yearlong deployment in Afghanistan with the Nevada Army National Guard and was shot and killed on his second day back to work with the Nye County Sheriff's Office. He is survived by his wife Vicky, son Jonathon, daughter Savonya, his parents, his two brothers and his sister. Deputy Deutch's life of public service was tragically cut short, but we honor his sacrifice and know that he will serve as an example of selfless service for generations to come.

In 1982, Sergeant Vincent Tyrone Tatum was abducted, beaten and shot four times in the head after he finished his shift at the Southern Desert Correctional Center. He had been conducting an internal investigation in-

volving contraband being smuggled into a southern Nevada correctional facility by employees, and it is believed he was murdered to hinder the investigation. The murder of Sergeant Tatum is a stark reminder of what law enforcement officers risk day in and day out, and we are grateful for his sacrifice.

Police week is held once a year, but we should remember the important and often dangerous work our public safety officers perform every day. America could not exist without them, and I am grateful for all they do. This year we honor those courageous Nevadans, and reflect on the sacrifices made by all law enforcement officers every day. We will never forget what they do for our communities, and we will forever be indebted to them for their dedication and service.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SOUTHERN NEVADA

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada, which is celebrating its 70th anniversary.

Since 1941, the Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada has provided crucial services to southern Nevada's neediest families. From the first diocesan director, Father Thomas F. Collins, to today's chief executive officer, Monsignor Patrick R. Leary, this community service center has focused on addressing the essential needs of a rapidly growing community.

As times have changed, so has the need to augment the services for seniors, children, refugees and the homeless. The Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada has not skipped a beat in this effort. Today, it services more than 2 million residents as one of the largest private, nonprofit social service providers in the State. It works hard to treat all who seek its help with dignity and respect, while bringing them one step closer to self-sufficiency.

I am pleased to stand today and commend the Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada on this important milestone of 70 years of public service to a community that is eternally grateful for its continued charity and kindness.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF LAS VEGAS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the Boys and Girls Club of Las Vegas.

As someone whose life was transformed by youth development programs, public education and athletics, I am proud to share in this momentous occasion for the Boys and Girls Club of Las Vegas. Young people in the Las Vegas valley have benefited from their excellent programs and services that help develop productive, caring and responsible citizens.

They offer robust services in leadership development, education and career development, the arts, sports and other